

THE SAN ANTONIO/RENGSTORFF AREA NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING REPORT

Responses to Issues Raised at the April 1, 2004
Council Neighborhood Committee Meeting

Presented below are the City's responses to various issues and concerns raised at the April 1, 2004 Council Neighborhood Committee meeting with the San Antonio/Rengstorff neighborhood area. If you have further questions about any of the following responses, please contact the responsible Department at the phone numbers noted below. General questions can be directed to Linda Lauzze, the City's Administrative and Neighborhood Services Manager, at (650) 903-6306.

CITY MANAGERS OFFICE – (650) 903-6301

- 1. I have lived on California Street since 1969. I am a property manager here as well. I am concerned that the area is deteriorating as it did back in the late 1980's. Who can I talk to at the City about specific concerns that I have?*

There are a number of different City Departments you can contact, depending on the nature of your concerns. The City's Police Department has been working with neighborhood groups and apartment manager groups to discuss issues occurring in this area. Depending on your specific concerns, you may want to contact Jim Bennett in the Police Department at (650) 903-6357 to discuss joining one of these future meetings or to discuss other specific concerns that you have. If your concern is about the condition of one of the properties on California Street, please contact the City's apartment housing inspection program at (650) 903-6365. Many of the apartments on California Street have undergone private renovation in the last ten years and the appearance of the California Street neighborhood has generally improved. If you are concerned about graffiti, sidewalks, or street cleaning, please contact the City's Public Services Division, at (650) 903-6329.

- 2. How can we improve the reputation of Latham and California Streets?*

There have been positive changes in this area in the past ten years. Participation in the City's neighborhood watch programs, forming neighborhood associations, and holding neighborhood events are some ways that the Latham/California Street neighborhood can continue to improve. As suggested in the previous question, you may want to contact Jim Bennett in the Police Department to participate in meetings with other residents who are concerned about the future of this neighborhood.

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE – (650) 903-6303

1. *What's the City's position on medical marijuana usage? Would medical marijuana clubs be permitted if someone wanted to start one? Can marijuana be grown legally to be sold to other clubs for medical use?*

The City Council has not considered or adopted an official policy on medical marijuana use. Under the current City code, medical marijuana clinics would be considered a medical office use and would be allowed where medical offices are permitted by the zoning code. Cultivating and growing marijuana is covered by State and Federal Laws. In order for it to be lawful to grow marijuana in Mountain View for the purpose of selling it to a marijuana club, an ordinance authorizing and regulating this activity would need to be enacted. The City of Mountain View has not enacted such an ordinance.

2. *I have a problem with the food cart vendors. They should not be allowed to have any type of device that makes sounds to attract people to them like horns and bells. They make a great deal of noise and people throw their litter on the ground and other people have to clean up their mess.*

Mobile food vendors are required to get a permit from the City, which must be renewed annually. If a food vendor is creating noise or litter, this should be reported to the City's Police Department at (650) 903-6344 and they will investigate the problem. Vendors that continue to create noise and litter problems, may not have their permits renewed and where a vendor is jeopardizing public health and safety, their permit can be suspended or revoked.

3. *What are the regulations regarding early morning noise – i.e. horn blowers and leaf blowers?*

The City Council previously considered possible regulations on leaf blowers on two separate occasions, but decided not to adopt new regulations for this type of use. The City does have an ordinance that covers noise from construction activities. Construction cannot begin before 7:00 a.m. or continue after 6:00 p.m. or take place on weekends except through a special permit from the Building Official.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6331

1. *Rengstorff Park needs a real good cleaning, especially the play ground area.*

Recent reductions in park staffing and supplies have affected service levels at all city parks. As one of two citywide district parks, however, efforts have been to maintain service levels at this highly popular and well-used park.

The play equipment at Rengstorff Park is visually inspected and spot cleaned on a daily/weekly basis. Spot cleaning usually consists of graffiti removal, litter and debris pick up and raking the sand free of debris and glass. Problems with glass and/or other playground safety items should be reported to the Parks and Open Space Division at 903-6326.

2. *Castro Park and Castro School needs to be cleaned better.*

The City has received one or two complaints in the past about debris and litter in Castro Park. Much of the litter/debris is from the school and is often blown on to the park. The District has since been alerted and the problem decreased. The City will, however, continue to monitor the situation and will pay specific attention to the maintenance services it provides to the site. Problems with litter and debris should be reported to the Parks and Open Space Division at 903-6326.

3. *The lot on Rengstorff that is for sale by the City has become a garbage dump. Can the City please make sure they clean it up at least once a week?*

City staff has inspected the City property on the corner of University Avenue and Rengstorff Avenue and did not find significant debris or litter on the site at that time. We will continue to make routine inspections of the site to minimize any additional problems with garbage on the site. Please call the City's Forestry and Roadway Landscape Division at (650) 903-6273 to report any future problems with littering on this property.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6306

1. *How is the property at corner of Rengstorff and University zoned? How is this property different from properties on Shoreline? If it is sold, how will there be access to the property, since this is a busy street and corner? What about the trees?*

The two properties on University Avenue at Rengstorff Avenue (north and south sides of the street) are zoned R1 (Single-Family Residential) and would allow development of one detached dwelling.

Shoreline Boulevard includes a variety of zoning designations. To view a copy of the City Zoning Map please visit the following web site:

http://www.ci.mtnview.ca.us/citydepts/cd/cp/zoning_map.htm

Access to corner properties is normally from the side street (less busy street), however the City is flexible about this standard. For new development, the safety of turning into and out of a property, and the design of the existing roadway are evaluated to find the best access point. Selling a home triggers no special regulations regarding vehicle access.

The City's Heritage Tree Ordinance requires that a special permit be granted to remove or relocate large trees in Mountain View. For additional information on this Ordinance, please contact the Community Development Department at 903-6306.

2. *Are there any plans to renovate the commercial buildings and stores on Escuela Avenue (behind Cost Plus at the intersection of Latham and Escuela)?*

These buildings are all privately owned. To date, no plans to renovate these buildings have been submitted to the Community Development Department.

Three of the four properties on this corner, where existing businesses are located, are zoned CRA (Commercial Residential Arterial). The CRA zone allows retail, restaurants, offices, and personal service uses. The other corner property is zoned multi-family residential.

Minor changes to these properties (i.e., new permitted uses, new signage) typically will not trigger any substantial City review or requirements to upgrade these properties. If and when plans are submitted for a Conditional Use Permit for particular uses (for example, residential, private schools, or auto related businesses), the City will review these plans and will consider requiring improvements to the sites and/or buildings. Conditional Use Permits typically require upgrades such as new exterior building paint, parking lot resurfacing and restriping, and landscaping and fencing improvements.

3. *Has the City monitored parking at the Community Music School since the opening, especially during events? Parking during events goes all the way to San Antonio over crossing.*

The City has informally monitored parking at this site, and has approved temporary use of the adjacent (vacant) lot for grand opening events. The Catholic Charities efficiency studios development is scheduled to begin construction this summer, which will prevent further shared parking between these two sites. The City has encouraged the CSMA to prepare a Parking Management Plan, which would evaluate both supply and demand-side strategies for addressing their parking needs.

4. *The City required our builders to lease Hetch Hetchy land to make density levels. We (Oaktree Commons) clearly need the road but the planting areas could become part of Klein Park. Then we could renegotiate our lease. We pay \$1900 a month for that City requirement and it is killing us financially.*

The Zoning for Oaktree Commons requires integration and landscaping of the adjacent Hetch Hetchy right-of-way. As noted, this property area was used to calculate the allowable number of units constructed at the site. The right of way is 80' wide, adjacent to a major thoroughfare, and bisected by a driveway entrance into Oaktree Commons. It is unlikely that this area would make a usable addition to the

Klein Park. The full City Council must make this decision, since this would be a budget and zoning issue.

You may request that the Council consider this proposal and the Council would decide whether to refer this issue to the City's Parks and Recreation Commission and Environmental Planning Commission for their recommendations and then whether to allocate funding for this purpose. This request can be made via e-mail to www.ci.mtnview.ca.us, or in person during the public communications portion of a Council meeting, or through a letter addressed to the City Council and mailed to City of Mountain View, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA 94039. It would be appropriate if this request came from the Oaktree Commons Homeowners Association Board, since the issue affects all of the homeowners in this development.

5. *What is planned for the affordable housing project to prevent parking from overflowing into the Crossings neighborhood?*

Before the Efficiency Studios were approved by the City Council, a detailed parking study was completed to determine the amount of parking needed for the project. The purpose of this study was to help ensure there would be adequate on-site parking to avoid spillover parking problems with nearby properties. For this study, parking surveys were taken at four other existing efficiency studios projects in Palo Alto, Sunnyvale, and San Jose. These surveys counted parked cars at the peak hours of parking use and found that the highest parking demand among all four of the efficiency studios was 0.49 spaces per unit. The City Council decided to adopt a parking ratio of 0.60 spaces per units, which will result in even more parking available on-site than was suggested by the parking study. This higher parking requirement will help ensure sufficient on-site parking for the San Antonio Efficiency Studios.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6350

1. *There is a weight limit for vehicles to park along California Street. However, the police do not know how much a vehicle weights. The ordinance should be changed to say that dual wheeled or dual axle vehicles cannot park on California Street. We have tow trucks and motor homes parking all the time in front of our building and we cannot see around them to pull out into the street.*

An Officer can determine if a vehicle is in violation of the “gross vehicle weight rating” (GVWR) by checking the registration on the vehicle in question. If a citizen believes a vehicle is parked in violation of City Ordinance, or any other City or State parking section, he/she can call the Police Department's non-emergency phone number (903-6395) and an Officer will be assigned to check on the complaint.

2. *About 12 years ago we had an officer Nelson assigned to our area that would help us out with problems we had in our area. Could we have that program back again?*

At that time, an Officer was assigned to a specific area of town consisting of high-density apartment complexes to address citizen concerns in the area. The area was bordered by California Street, Ortega, Latham Street and Escuela Avenue. The Officer worked the area for over two years. The Police Department used grant money to fund this position; the grant expired. The Police Department has been working with neighborhood groups and apartment manager groups to discuss issues occurring in their areas. Contact Jim Bennett (903-6357) to discuss joining a future meeting to discuss issues regarding your specific area. Citizens should contact the Police Department when they observe any problems, and provide specific details so responding Officers can make contact and take enforcement action as appropriate while the problem is occurring.

3. *What is the law about parking in front of a property (home) when blocked by people attending services at a facility on University?*

Vehicles can be parked on any public street as long as there are no violations of parking laws, including parking in red zones, next to fire hydrants, blocking driveways, etc. If you feel a vehicle is parked illegally, you can call the Police Department's non-emergency phone number (903-6395) to report.

4. *Truck driving school on Latham (at the old DMV site):*

- *There is a truck driving (semis) school running on Latham next to the old DMV. Do they have a permit? Do they need a permit?*

There is not a truck driving school at the DMV at Showers/Latham. However, the DMV does conduct commercial driving tests at this location, and the vehicles you see may be driving in that area as drivers complete the DMV test for their commercial driver's license.

- *Since the change of services at the DMR on Showers, we are getting more truck traffic on Ortega. I can hear more trucks changing gears. What can be done?*

The Police Department can increase traffic enforcement to help decrease the number of vehicle code violations occurring in this area. Another alternative, if the problem with trucks continues, is to contact the DMV to see if they can adjust testing routes and procedures.

5. *I am very upset about the cars for sale on Rengstorff. I have noticed one man who brings 4 or 5 cars to sell. Can the City do something about this?*

The City ordinance that prohibited the parking of vehicles on the street with for sale signs was declared unconstitutional several years ago. We do seek voluntary compliance by distributing flyers from time to time on vehicles in question. Also, to help address this problem, the area on the 100 block of South Rengstorff Avenue on the residential side is posted with a five-hour parking limit, Sunday and holiday

exceptions. Officers are checking and taking enforcement action as calls for service allow.

6. *We have a problem with people stealing the recycling from the recycling containers in the Old Mill complex.*

One alternative to discourage theft of recycling items is to have a locked bin. Contact the Police Department if there is a specific day/time the same individual is taking recycling items, or call the Police Department when someone is observed taking recycling items, and provide specific details so responding Officers can contact the person and take enforcement action as appropriate while the problem is occurring.

7. *Can the City do something about people hanging out on Gabriel and Showers smoking, drinking and throwing up on the sidewalk?*

Officers have been asked to check this area to address the problem. (Same response to question #8.) Citizens should contact the Police Department when they observe this problem or any other problem, and provide specific details so responding Officers can make contact and take enforcement action as appropriate while the problem is occurring.

8. *Can someone do something about people drinking and urinating on the street (on the corner of Chiquita Street and California)? Usually this happens about 7pm to 9pm every weekend.*

Officers have been asked to check this area to address the problem. (Same response to question #7.) Citizens should contact the Police Department when they observe this problem or any other problem, and provide specific details so responding Officers can make contact and take enforcement action as appropriate while the problem is occurring.

9. *Is it legal for bicycle riders to ride their bikes on sidewalks? Jennifer Court is a private street and I encounter bikes and we have had a few close calls when trying to pull out of the driveway.*

The vehicle code states that bicycle riders must obey all the rules of the road that are applicable to other vehicles. While, per the vehicle code, cars as well as bicycles cannot drive on the sidewalk, practically speaking, there are many streets where you probably would not want your child riding his/her bike in the street. Police Officers have the discretion, based on the given circumstances, to issue a citation.

10. *We (Oaktree Commons) have a resident with 6 or 7 vehicles. Three vehicles have Florida plates even though the cars have been there for years. They park in our communal parking (taking 3-4 places every night) on our private roads. We are aware that the Police cannot help us because of private roads, but we need help. What can be done?*

The Police Department does not have jurisdiction over parking or storage of vehicles on private property. Residents should work with their homeowner associations to address this issue. Homeowner associations generally have rules regarding resident parking. Check with the homeowner association to determine if the property can be posted to allow for the towing of unauthorized vehicles in accordance with Section 22658 of the Vehicle Code.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – (650) 903-6311

1. *Could the City improve the cleaning of streets and sidewalks, especially Latham, Escuela and El Camino Real?*

Latham and Escuela are swept on the first and third Wednesday of the month, and are also part of the Clean Sweep Program. This means the sweeper makes a pass on one side of the street on the first and third Monday of the month, and the other side on the first and third Tuesday of the month. These streets are already cleaned more than most other sweeping routes. El Camino Real is swept twice a month. The City does not clean sidewalks in residential areas.

2. *In the last couple of years, the building at the corner of San Antonio and California Avenues was remodeled from an auto service shop to office space. It currently houses Silicon Valley Credit Union and another business. I have noticed that more vehicles are now parked on California Avenue directly in front of this building - in an area that I feel is a bit unsafe. The driving lane on Northbound California (towards Del Medio) is narrow here due to the left turn lane from California onto San Antonio towards 101. I have seen remnants of at least one accident where someone has hit a parked car. Can Public Works paint this curb red for no parking at this section? Every day I sit in the left turn lane and opposing traffic comes very close to our cars when there are vehicles parked at the curb.*

The Traffic Engineering staff checked this section of California Street and found the roadway width for the westbound travel lane and parking lane to be approximately 18'. While this lane width is adequate for a travel lane and parking lane on most residential streets, it is not adequate for a roadway with higher traffic volumes like California Street. The City will prohibit parking on the north side of California Street for a distance of approximately 65 feet from the corner. This parking prohibition will provide a wider westbound travel lane for drivers turning from San Antonio Road onto California Street.

3. *Also in the last 3+ years, I have noticed that there are more and more vehicles turning left from San Antonio Southbound onto California Southbound. During the afternoon commute these cars can back up to the overpass over Caltrain. And then of course, there is always one individual who wants to cross over 3 lanes of traffic from the Alma merge lane to get in the left turn lane. I remember years ago that there was no left turn lane here at all - I assume it was added for the Crossing's complex. Is there any future plans to add a second left turn lane?*

There are no plans at this time to consider adding a second left turn lane for southbound San Antonio Road at California Street because the backup of southbound San Antonio Road left turn traffic at California Street occurs occasionally and only for a short period of time during the afternoon commute peak hour. When the left turn lane was reinstated, access to San Antonio Circle from San Antonio Road was retained to provide a second way for drivers to access the Crossing's complex and California Street via Showers Drive and to relieve some of the left turn backup in the left turn storage lane.

4. *What will the City do about nuisance by a neighbor that results in lost of sleep? Three dumpsters kept by a neighboring complex (Regal Palms) next to our bedrooms, and blinding safety lights aimed at our bedrooms. The dumpsters sounds like explosions when garbage is dropped in.*

Lighting for these apartments was approved as part of the original development and is required for the security and safety of residents. New dumpster enclosures were required when the apartments were renovated a few years ago, and the number of dumpsters was increased to provide adequate service. Although a different location for the enclosures may be desired, there is no other place to site the enclosures at this older apartment building without losing required parking spaces and impairing garbage collection. The dumpster lids are made of plastic to help reduce noise, and the property manager reminds tenants regularly to be considerate of all neighbors when depositing garbage into empty dumpsters especially late at night.

5. *What is the status on Caltrain schedule for San Antonio Station?*

At the April meeting, the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board of Directors (JPB) adopted the new spring schedule, which will be effective June 7, 2004. The Board approved hourly weekend service between San Jose Diridon Station and San Francisco, including the San Antonio Station. Weekday service to San Antonio Station stops 63 times out of 86 trips. Service is primarily local, stopping at all stations, and some limited trains, stopping at selected stations.

6. *I am curious about the black box's on the telephone lines and if you know what their purpose is for. It seems to me they were placed about 10 to 15 years ago. And they are not evenly placed around the city streets. There are 5 of them placed around my mother's house in a circle and there was one placed next to my mother's house in her backyard. There was a man taking meter-readings last week and he said they were some kind of digital or electronic device. Are they some kind of sound box or camera?*

The City is not involved in the operation of local utilities. Residents may address questions regarding these boxes to their local utility companies based upon their address.

7. *Do we have a plan to have an entrance and exit from Central Expressway to Highway 85 (instead of going to Evelyn to take 85)?*

There are currently no plans to add a Central Expressway entrance or exit to Route 85. In the past, City staff has proposed this option for possible countywide sales tax Measure funding, however, it was not included in the ballot initiative. Further, there are no State or Federal funds available for this project.

8. *El Camino is very dark, dangerously so, in front of the 2400 block of Avalon Towers. Only one streetlight exists as far as I know. Can the City look into installing another one?*

There are two City street lights on El Camino Real in front of Avalon Towers. However, these lights are also very close to several trees, which block a significant amount of illumination from these lights. The City's Community Services Department will trim and thin these trees to allow more light to filter through to the sidewalk and enhance the lighting. In addition, City staff has checked these lights at night and confirmed they are operating.

9. *What about the lighting on Gabriel Avenue? Certain sections of it are very dark. There are always people hanging out all the time close to the corner of Showers & Gabriel.*

There are three PG&E street lights on the north side of Gabriel Avenue plus one at its intersection with Showers Drive. The street light on Gabriel Avenue half way between Showers Drive and Ortega Avenue is engulfed by a large tree on private property. The City will contact the tree owner and request the tree be trimmed and thinned to allow light to filter through to the sidewalk and roadway. In addition, City staff has checked these lights at night and confirmed they are operating.

10. *The intersection of El Camino and 237 is very dangerous with respect to left turn lanes simultaneously turning in East/West directions.*

The El Camino Real/State Route 237 intersection is operated and maintained by Caltrans as both are State roadways. The current markings separating the double left turn lanes in both directions conform to State standards. The City will contact Caltrans engineers to see if they will consider installing additional markings that may provide drivers with better delineation while making left turns.

11. *Could the City put a traffic light to make a right or left turn on California and Escuela? There are a lot of accidents and I am very worried because there are a lot of children crossing and some people don't respect anyone crossing the road. When we call the police nobody comes.*

There is a traffic signal at the California Street/Escuela Avenue intersection to control vehicles and pedestrians. While this traffic signal does not have protected left turn

traffic signals for cars on California Street, there is an adult crossing guard at this intersection when children are walking to and from Castro School. The Traffic Engineering staff will study this intersection to determine if protected left turn signals on California Street at Escuela Avenue are needed. You can contact Dennis Belluomini or Mike Vroman at (650) 903-6311 to discuss the scheduling and results of this study.

Also, the State vehicle Code states cars making right or left turns from either street must yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian in the crosswalk. The Police Department was contacted regarding drivers' failure to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and will patrol this intersection, as their resources permit, during times children are going to and from school.

12. *At Oaktree Drive (where Hillwood T's in front of the mail boxes) either the road is sinking or the storm water manhole is rising. We (Oaktree Commons) had several road repair people give us bids but they said the storm drainpipe is rising and fixing the road won't solve the problem. How can we get the City to fix this problem?*

City staff has inspected this private street and found minimal sinking of the pavement. A certain amount of settling is normal for asphalt paving and the settling at this location is not excessive. Residents of Oaktree Commons may request that the paving contractor contact the City if they have any further questions.

13. *2280 Latham Apartments has a pink retaining wall that overhangs Oaktree Commons. They used to have their garbage bins against the wall and the garbage company broke the wall and it is falling into 429 Hillwood's backyard (where children live). We have tried to get the owner, Tom Jordan, to fix the wall (for the past 2 years), but he keeps stalling. The wall is cracking and moving all along its length. What can the city do to help us with this problem?*

Building and public works inspectors examined this wall for structural safety concerns in the recent past. The retaining wall is reinforced masonry (concrete wall with steel rebar) and has a cosmetic crack horizontally across a portion of the wall. The rebar will keep the wall in place and does not present a structural hazard. Oaktrees Commons may wish to contact neighborhood mediation at (650) 960-0495 to pursue a voluntary cost-sharing basis with the neighboring property owner.

14. *I am concerned about blowing garbage and dirty streets. Could the City consider these potential fixes: 1) Require managers of apartments between Latham, Escuela and Rengstorff, to provide adequate garbage. Most are overflowing by the weekend so by Monday pick-up, stuff is flying. 2) Conduct an education campaign in Spanish (at Castro) for homes /apartments that littering is not acceptable. 3) Have the police enforce littering and loitering.*

The City requires apartment managers to provide adequate garbage service for complexes, and audits both residential and commercial properties annually for

compliance. Throughout the year, Foothill Disposal identifies properties with overflowing garbage and reports the problem to the property owner and the City for correction. The multi-family housing program also conducts inspections of this area as well.

During FY 2002-03 and FY 2003-04, the City provided litter education to all elementary schools as part of a teacher's workshop on environmental issues and school assemblies. In particular, the City worked with the Principal of Castro School to provide more litter containers around the school and the adjoining park, and provided litter curriculum for students. (Castro School has a bilingual program.) The Police enforce littering and loitering laws as they observe violations.

- 15. City solid waste bins, split cart-recycling bins, and most definitely yard waste bins don't fit in our garages. Planning approved our narrow garages. Solid waste and planning should be working together on this, so when programs like recycling are changed the program is designed to work for us too, rather than forcing expensive changes.*

Development plans are routed to appropriate departments as part of the City's development review process, which is coordinated by Community Development (Planning). Solid Waste regularly provides information and conditions of approval to developers through this process. The limitations of existing developments were considered when the recycling program modifications were developed. Council adopted the modifications after two study sessions and a public hearing.

- 16. Yard waste collection. Since the advent of this program we have been asking the City to modify the program so our neighbors can use the program. 1) Allow our landscape company to bring our green waste to the smart station. 2) Give our residents burlap material so we can place green waste in them and they can use the green waste recycling program (incl. in the bi-monthly rates they pay). I think this is the 4th neighborhood meeting in the last 6 years that I've asked this question.*

Yard waste services are provided only through cart collection from the property generating the yard waste. This system ensures collection and processing of yard waste from Mountain View properties only. Foothill Disposal collects and transports the yard waste to the SMaRT Station for processing into mulch and compost. The City provided burlap material for bottle and can recycling when the program was first implemented, and discontinued this collection method when new recycling bins were distributed in the late 1980's. Residents living at properties with space constraints may find it easier to transport yard trimmings to the cart in burlap, which can be purchased from local gardening and hardware stores.

- 17. I live in the California / Rengstorff area and abandoned shopping carts are a big issue. The City person who picks up the shopping carts does a great job, but he should not have to. Can anything be done to make merchants use devices that would stop the shopping carts from leaving their parking lots?*

State law requires stores to retrieve abandoned shopping carts within 72 hours of notification from the City, but does not require businesses to use cart-locking devices. Although locking systems reduce the amount of carts taken from store properties, locking devices can be overridden and the reliability of the systems decrease over time. The City is actively working with business owners and cart retrieval companies to remove shopping carts expeditiously and monitor problem areas. The City also monitors problem areas and removes shopping carts that pose a safety hazard on driveways and public right-of-ways. Residents and businesses may report abandoned carts through the City hot-line at 650-903-6767.

- 18. Speeding on California Street is a problem and I think the speed limit should be 25 since it is a residential area. Can anything be done to lower the speed limit? If not, what can we do to make sure the speed limit is being enforced?*

The speed limit on California Street was established based on an engineering and traffic survey. The State Vehicle Code requires these surveys to be conducted at least every five years to verify a street's speed limit in order for the Police Department to use radar for traffic enforcement. Arbitrarily establishing a lower unrealistic speed limit on California Street would prevent the Police Department from using radar to enforce speeding. The Police Department will be asked to enhance their enforcement efforts on California Street to the extent their resources permit. If you have any questions about establishment of speed limits or the traffic and engineering study to establish speed limits, please call Dennis Belluomini or Mike Vroman at (650) 903-6511.

- 19. There is excessive garbage on the streets and sidewalks along California and the neighboring streets. Can anything be done to get a better sweeping service? Perhaps have the sweepers come around more often?*

California Street is swept on the first and third Wednesday of the month, and is also part of the Clean Sweep Program. This means the sweeper makes a pass on one side of the street on the first and third Monday of the month, and the other side on the first and third Tuesday of the month. This area is already cleaned more than most other sweeping routes.

- 20. Can pedestrian islands be put in on California? It would make the street look nicer and it might help pedestrians cross the busy street.*

Landscaped median islands exist along sections of California Street where the roadway is wide enough, such as between Shoreline Boulevard and Mariposa Avenue or where parking is prohibited between Showers Drive and San Antonio Road. To install pedestrian islands along other sections of California Street would require modifying the roadway to eliminate a travel lane, prohibit parking and/or remove the bicycle lanes along California Street. These modifications will affect traffic conditions on California Street. Eliminating a travel lane could create a very

congested roadway, as traffic would be restricted to a single travel lane in one or both directions. In addition, some apartment complexes along California Street do not have sufficient on-site parking for their residents. Prohibiting on-street parking would cause these residents to park on adjacent neighborhood streets impacting other neighborhoods. Removing bike lanes on California Street would adversely impact the City's bicycle facilities network. The California Street bike lanes provide a dedicated section of roadway for bicyclists to travel between downtown, the San Antonio Shopping Center and several points in between. Also, with the current budget challenges facing the City, constructing and maintaining additional median islands will add cost and is not feasible at this time.

23. I'm part of a community group call C.A.T. We are worried about the pre-school near Latham Street. There is no traffic control and the cars go fast and we are scared about accidents. We want to know if it is possible to have help, maybe a crossing guard or something.

On March 26, the City painted a 40' passenger loading zone on Latham Street adjacent to the pre-school. Since cars are prohibited from parking in this loading zone for extended periods of time, this area should be available most of the time children are transported to and from the pre-school. Parents are encouraged to use this passenger loading zone rather than stopping on the south side of Latham Street and crossing the street mid-block. Adult crossing guards are normally used at intersections where there are a high number of children crossing the intersection without their parents.